## HERGE, SPARKS & CHRISTOPHER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SUITE 200

8201 GREENSBORO DRIVE

McLean, Virginia 22102

(703) 848-4700

J. CURTIS HERGE ROBERT R. SPARKS, JR. A. MARK CHRISTOPHER MATTHEW SCOTT MCCONNELL CHRISTOPHER T. CRAIG

June 18, 1997

TELECOPIER NUMBER (703) 893-7371

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

Lawrence M. Noble, Esq. General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20463 Jun 20 12 os PH 197

Re: Conservative Victory
Committee; MUR 4634

Dear Mr. Noble:

This letter is submitted on behalf of our clients, Conservative Victory Committee and Leif E. Noren, Treasurer, in response to the allegations contained in the letter from Micheline Z. Burger to the Federal Election Commission dated April 29, 1997, a letter which you have deemed to be a complaint and numbered MUR 4634.

By letter dated May 21, 1997, we entered our appearance and submitted our clients' Statement of Designation of Counsel. In that letter and in our letter of June 10, 1997, we requested an extension until June 20, 1997 within which to file our response. That requested extension was granted, as confirmed by a letter to me from the Central Enforcement Docket dated June 13, 1997.

In her letter, Ms. Burger alleged that John H. and Ruth Stauffer, in-laws to Senator Sam Brownback, contributed \$37,500.00 to several political committees including our client, Conservative Victory Committee, with the knowledge that substantial portions of their contributions would be contributed to the Brownback campaign; and that the Stauffers either explicitly earmarked those contributions, or they indicated indirectly or implied that their contributions should be used toward the Brownback campaign.

Lawrence M. Noble, Esq. June 18, 1997 Page 2

In response to those allegations, we submit to you herewith the affidavits of the two individuals responsible for the management and the administration of Conservative Victory Committee. One affidavit has been executed by Leif E. Noren, the President and Treasurer of Conservative Victory Committee. The second affidavit has been executed by L. Brent Bozell, III, the Executive Director of Conservative Victory Committee. Those affidavits, which were prepared after a diligent search for and examination of the records under the custody and control of the deponents, demonstrate that no further action is warranted or should be taken against our clients in this matter.

In summary, the evidence shows that Mr. and Mrs. John H. Stauffer each contributed \$2,500.00 to Conservative Victory Committee. While the two principals of Conservative Victory Committee are in no position to opine on the state of mind or personal motivations of the Stauffers when they contributed to Conservative Victory Committee, the evidence demonstrates that neither Mr. Noren nor Mr. Bozell knew in 1996 that the Stauffers may be related to candidate Brownback; that neither Conservative Victory Committee nor its principals solicited the Stauffers directly or indirectly for contributions; and, most importantly, that there was no communication to, with or from the Stauffers, directly or indirectly, explicitly or implicitly, that their contributions were in any way earmarked for, or should or would be used to support, any candidate.

Conservative Victory Committee did make four separate contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate. Those contributions were made over a five-month period, before as well as after the date the Committee received the Stauffers' contributions. As the enclosed affidavits reflect, the decisions to contribute to Brownback for U.S. Senate, and the amounts and timing of such contributions, were made exclusively by Messrs. Noren and Bozell independent, and not at the direction, of any other person. The Brownback campaign was one of many which received multiple contributions from Conservative Victory Committee; and, it was considered by Messrs. Noren and Bozell to be one of several campaigns that deserved support. Neither the Stauffers, nor their contributions, influenced those decisions in any way.

Any further investigation into this matter by the Federal Election Commission, including subpoenas and depositions,

Lawrence M. Noble, Esq. June 18, 1997 Page 3

would not change this result. Accordingly, we respectfully submit that no further action should be taken on this matter and the file should be closed.

J. Curtis Herge

Counsel to Conservative Victory Committee and Leif E. Noren,

Treasurer

:sbl

**Enclosures** 

cc: Conservative Victory Committee

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE and LEIF E. NOREN, as its Treasurer,

Respondent.

MUR 4634

## AFFIDAVIT OF L. BRENT BOZELL, III

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA 88: CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

- L. BRENT BOZELL, III, being duly sworn, deposes and says:
- That I am the Executive Director of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, a political committee as defined in 2 U.S.C. § 431(4)(A) and 11 C.F.R. § 100.5(e)(3);
- That Leif E. Noren, who serves as President and Treasurer of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, and I are the two individuals responsible for the management and the administration of the programs and activities of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE and, as a result thereof, Mr. Noren and I are qualified to address the allegations contained in the letter from Micheline Z. Burger to the Federal Election Commission dated April 29, 1997;
- That, in calendar year 1996, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made four separate direct contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate by checks drawn in the following amounts on the following dates: \$500.00 on June 28, 1996; \$1,000.00 on July 16,

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1996; \$2,000.00 on July 22, 1996; and \$1,000.00 on October 17, 1996;

- 4. That, in calendar year 1996, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made no in-kind contribution to Brownback for U.S. Senate and CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made no independent expenditures in support of candidate Brownback or in opposition to candidate Brownback's opponents;
- 5. That, to the best of my knowledge, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE never received, at any time, any contribution from any person, either directly or indirectly, which was in any way "earmarked," as that term is defined in 11 C.F.R. §

  110.6(b)(1), for candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, or an authorized committee of candidate Brownback;
- 6. That, according to the books and records of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, on or about July 11, 1996 CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE received a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 signed by John H. Stauffer and a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 signed by Mrs. John H. Stauffer;
- 7. That, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, the checks referred to in the foregoing paragraph 6 were delivered to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE by the United States Postal Service;
- 8. That I did not, and to the best of my knowledge CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE did not, solicit Mr. Stauffer or Mrs. Stauffer directly or indirectly to contribute to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE.

- 9. That, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, there was no writing of any kind on, or enclosed with, or attached to, or which accompanied, the checks referred to in paragraph 6 which directed, suggested or implied in any manner that the funds be contributed to or expended on behalf of candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, or any authorized committee of candidate Brownback; and, after a diligent search of my files and of the files of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, none has been found;
- 10. That I have never, to my knowledge, met, talked to, or otherwise communicated in any way or manner, directly or indirectly, with Mr. John H. Stauffer or with Mrs. John H. Stauffer about any subject, matter or thing whatsoever;
- 11. That, with the exception of the checks referred to in paragraph 6, I have never, to my knowledge, received any communication of any type, directly or indirectly, from Mr. John H. Stauffer or from Mrs. John H. Stauffer;
- 12. That I never at any time received from any person whatsoever any communication, oral or written, which suggested directly or indirectly, explicitly or implicitly, that the contributions made to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE by Mr. John H. Stauffer or by Mrs. John H. Stauffer, or both, were in any way earmarked in whole or in part for candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, for any authorized committee of candidate Brownback, or for any other purpose;
- 13. That at the time CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE received the contributions from Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer, and at the

time CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made its contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate, I had no knowledge that one of the Stauffers may be related to candidate Brownback;

14. That the decisions that CONSERVATIVE VICTORY

COMMITTEE make contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate and the amounts and the times of such contributions, were made exclusively by Leif E. Noren and me independently and not by or at the direction of any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Affidavit this day of June, 1997.

L. BRENT BOZELL, III

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Sworn to before me this // BRENT BOZELL, III.

Hanle

Catherine H. Gonzales

My Commission Expires: My Commission Review International Property I

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE and LEIF E. NOREN, as its Treasurer,

MUR 4634

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF LEIF E. NOREN

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

ss:

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

LEIF E. NOREN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- That I am the President and Treasurer of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, a political committee as defined in 2 U.S.C. § 431(4)(A) and 11 C.F.R. § 100.5(e)(3);
- That L. Brent Bozell, who serves as Executive Director of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, and I are the two individuals responsible for the management and the administration of the programs and activities of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE and, as a result thereof, Mr. Bozell and I are qualified to address the allegations contained in the letter from Micheline Z. Burger to the Federal Election Commission dated April 29, 1997;
- 3. That, in calendar year 1996, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made four separate direct contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate by checks drawn in the following amounts on the following dates: \$500.00 on June 28, 1996; \$1,000.00 on July 16,

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1996; \$2,000.00 on July 22, 1996; and \$1,000.00 on October 17, 1996;

- 4. That, in calendar year 1996, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made no in-kind contribution to Brownback for U.S. Senate and CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made no independent expenditures in support of candidate Brownback or in opposition to candidate Brownback's opponents;
- 5. That, to the best of my knowledge, CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE never received, at any time, any contribution from any person, either directly or indirectly, which was in any way "earmarked," as that term is defined in 11 C.F.R. § 110.6(b)(1), for candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, or an authorized committee of candidate Brownback;
- 6. That, according to the books and records of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, on or about July 11, 1996 CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE received a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 signed by John H. Stauffer and a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 signed by Mrs. John H. Stauffer;
- 7. That, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, the checks referred to in the foregoing paragraph 6 were delivered to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE by the United States Postal Service;
- 8. That I did not, and to the best of my knowledge CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE did not, solicit Mr. Stauffer or Mrs. Stauffer directly or indirectly to contribute to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE.

- 9. That, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, there was no writing of any kind on, or enclosed with, or attached to, or which accompanied, the checks referred to in paragraph 6 which directed, suggested or implied in any manner that the funds be contributed to or expended on behalf of candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, or any authorized committee of candidate Brownback; and, after a diligent search of my files and of the files of CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE, none has been found;
- 10. That I have never, to my knowledge, met, talked to, or otherwise communicated in any way or manner, directly or indirectly, with Mr. John H. Stauffer or with Mrs. John H. Stauffer about any subject, matter or thing whatsoever;
- 11. That, with the exception of the checks referred to in paragraph 6, I have never, to my knowledge, received any communication of any type, directly or indirectly, from Mr. John H. Stauffer or from Mrs. John H. Stauffer;
- 12. That I never at any time received from any person whatsoever any communication, oral or written, which suggested directly or indirectly, explicitly or implicitly, that the contributions made to CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE by Mr. John H. Stauffer or by Mrs. John H. Stauffer, or both, were in any way earmarked in whole or in part for candidate Brownback, Brownback for U.S. Senate, for any authorized committee of candidate Brownback, or for any other purpose;
- 13. That at the time CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE received the contributions from Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer, and at the

time CONSERVATIVE VICTORY COMMITTEE made its contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate, I had no knowledge that one of the Stauffers may be related to candidate Brownback;

14. That the decisions that CONSERVATIVE VICTORY
COMMITTEE make contributions to Brownback for U.S. Senate and the
amounts and the times of such contributions, were made
exclusively by L. Brent Bozell, III and me independently and not
by or at the direction of any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Affidavit this  $17^{\frac{4}{3}}$  day of June, 1997.

LELF E. NOREI

Sworn to before me this ////
day of June, 1997/by LEIF E. NOREN.

Notary Public

Catherine H. Gonzales

Notary Public District of Calumbia
My Commission Expires: My Commission Expires: July 14, 2000